



Tuesday
AUGUST 16, 2011

★ **FREE** ★

A Chicago Tribune
publication

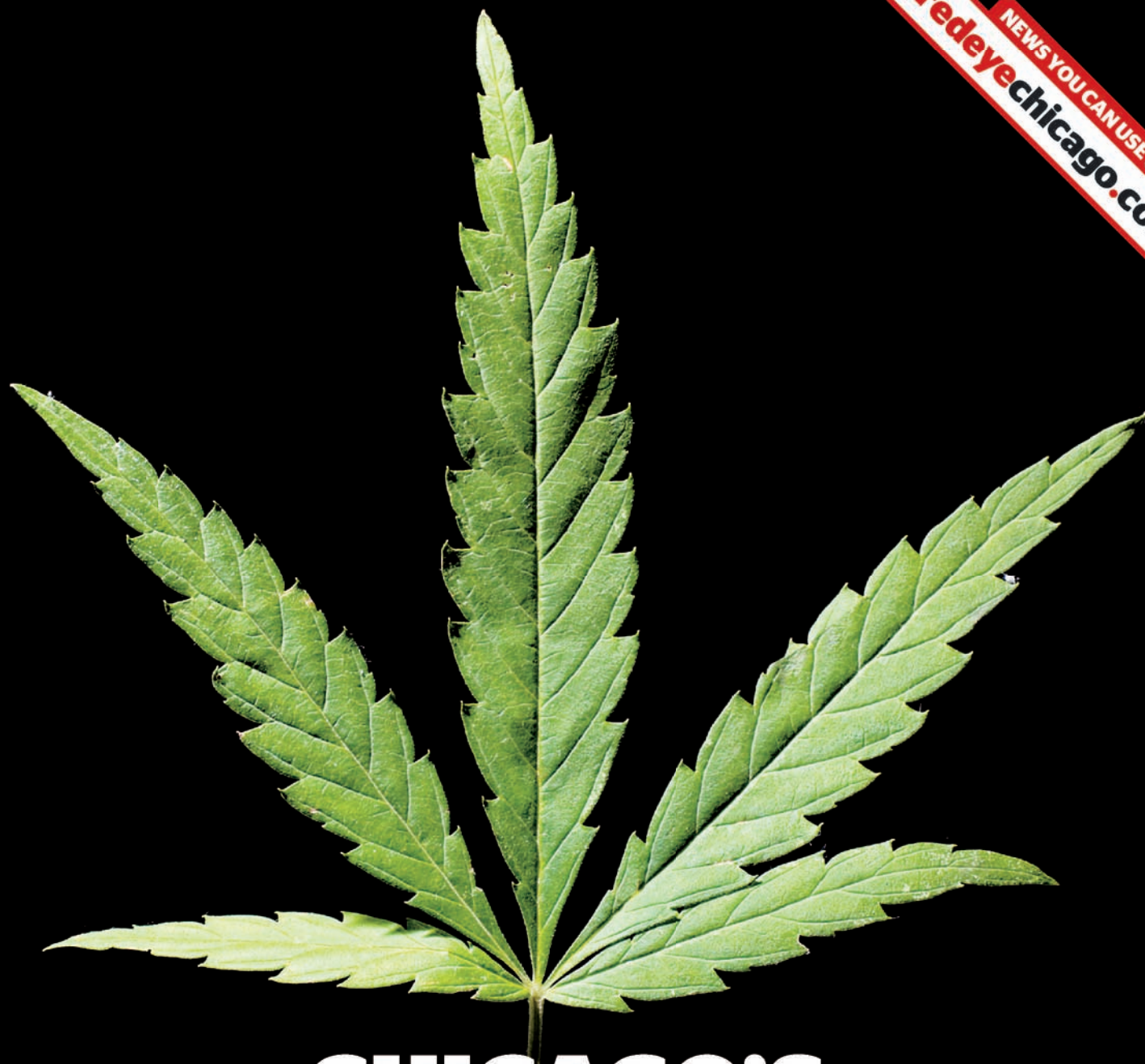
BIG Z
IS SO
SORRY

page 15

This CTA
station is
super crusty **4**

Indiana fair
takes time
to grieve **10**

metromix
5 new spots
where diets
are safe **17**



CHICAGO'S SECRET GARDENS

These aren't your ordinary farms. Normal-looking homes
are hiding sophisticated pot operations **pages 6-7**

NEWS YOU CAN USE @
redeyechicago.com

THE BIG TALKERS

More hot topics all the time at redeyechicago.com.



Brian Moore
twitter.com/redeyesportsguy
Team player



RedEye Hoods
redeyechicago.com/hoods
The locals



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The Bears won their first preseason game. Forecast the rest of the season for us.

Brian Moore (@redeyesportsguy): Sacks, injuries, brutal losses—and that's just the first game of the season.

Danny Miller: Brett Favre will have his triumphant return from retirement Again.

Aaron B. Sam (@AaronBSam): I love Da Bears, but I'm guessing early hibernation will occur.



City study cites high rate of vehicle-pedestrian crashes at intersections. Discuss.

Brian: Chicago drivers think they own the roads—pedestrians be damned.

Carrie Emge: Some people were obviously not skilled at playing "Frogger" as a child.

Felicia Yonter (@feliciacago): Amateurs. I always eat, tweet, paint my nails and drive without <crash>.



Summer's starting to wind down—what's one thing you still want to accomplish?

Brian: Convince people summer is overrated and fall is the best time of year.

Brian Tarman: Draft my fantasy football teams.

Jen Healy (@Henjealy): Does "finish spring cleaning" qualify?



84 70

TODAY'S FORECAST
We repeat, a perfect day



WED. 83 69
Oh boo, come on!



THU. 80 66
See, that was easy



FRI. 80 67
Keep us happy



SAT. 82 70
And we'll put up with this

best bets
By Jessica Gallart
jgallart@tribune.com



Save Ferris

Lincoln Hall, 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-525-2501

Grab \$3 Goose Island 312 beers and \$3 Chicago-style hot dogs while you watch "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" and "Risky Business." 7 p.m.



Time capsule Tuesday

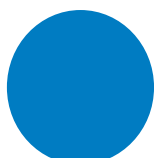
Tribune Freedom Center, 650 W. Chicago Ave. 800-775-2000

Opt for an even more classic Chicago movie at this week's Free Movie Tuesdays screening of "Sixteen Candles" under a state-of-the-art tent. Seating is first come, first served. 7 p.m.

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Although the Air & Water Show practice traditionally takes place on Friday, Mystic Blue Cruises cannot guarantee any specific Air & Water Show events on this day.

Culture comedy

Muslim performers tackle stereotypes in the South head-on



«Negin Farsad

«Maysoon Zayid

«Dean Obeidallah
GETTY IMAGES
FILE PHOTOS

CNN

The Muslims are Coming is a comedy tour that is traveling to small towns throughout the South in hopes of opening up a discussion about Muslim stereotypes.

The tour started in Gainesville, Fla., home of Terry Jones, the pastor who attracted international headlines by burning a Quran. It stopped in Lawrenceville, Ga., outside Atlanta, on Tuesday, will continue to Alabama and conclude in Tennessee.

The shows feature comedians Dean Obeidallah, Negin Farsad, Maysoon Zayid and Omar Elba. They are targeting small, conservative towns in the South where controversies over Islam have erupted.

"We came to the South because it has this reputation of being intolerant. It has this stereotype of hating other groups, so we wanted to see," Farsad said. "We have a feeling that they're not actually uniformly sitting around hating Muslims."

Obeidallah, who performed with the recent Axis of Evil comedy tour, and Farsad, producer of the 2008 movie "Nerdcare Rising," are producing a documentary about The Muslims are Coming. The shows on the tour are free, they say, because they want to reach as many people as possible.

"We really wanted to make this tour a chance to reach out American to American, people of different faiths coming together, laughing together," Obeidallah said.

He hopes the tour will start a candid dialogue about Muslim stereotypes—and that it will simply make people laugh.

And laugh they did, at least on Tuesday.

The Lawrenceville audience was receptive to the performance, even when it veered into sensitive territory. At one point, for instance, Zayid joked about meeting her husband in a Gaza refugee camp and telling him to "pack up his tent."

The shows also feature a Q&A segment

"We want to answer the tough questions, we encourage people to ask the tough questions, talk about the stereotypes that are lingering in your mind."

—Dean Obeidallah, on the Q&A segment of the Muslims are Coming comedy tour meant to open up discussion about Muslim stereotypes

with the audience.

In Lawrenceville, many of the questions gave voice to stereotypes. "Is it true if a group of women get naked, that Muslim men must kill themselves?" one audience member

asked.

"We want to answer the tough questions, we encourage people to ask the tough questions, talk about the stereotypes that are lingering in your mind," Obeidallah said.

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going public

TRACY SWARTZ
 tswartz@tribune.com

TALK TO US

Applications were due Monday for the Metro Chicago app contest for the best new Chicago transit app. While Metro Chicago judges the submissions it received, tell us, what would your ideal transit app look like? Send an email to **tswartz@tribune.com**. Please include your full name, age and neighborhood.

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Wilson gets the 'W' for worst again

No need to tell Wilson stop riders that bad things come in threes. The Red Line station in Uptown swept Going Public's annual "Crust Station" contest for the third year.

"Most depressing train stop in the country," Stephen Nieman, 29, of Edgewater, wrote to GP.

Readers voted overwhelmingly to hand the triple crown to Wilson for its dirt, urine smell, graffiti, vacant storefronts, safety concerns and lack of elevator—the same issues that won Wilson the contest the previous two years.

"Someone do something!" Jana Bendik, 27, of Uptown, pleaded to GP.

Last year, the CTA board voted to use \$3 million in tax-increment financing—or TIF—money intended to promote redevelopment in certain areas in the city to rehab the Wilson stop. Retailers vacated storefronts in preparation for this work, which hasn't begun.

The CTA said the money has not yet been allocated for the project. The agency expects to begin construction in 2012, pending the release of funds.

Uptown Ald. James Cappleman (46th) called the renovation his No. 1 priority and said he's pushing to move the project faster.

"We need retail in that area desperately," Cappleman told GP. "We have to move quickly on this."

The Wilson stop was not the only Red Line stop to receive multiple votes. Sheridan was derided by readers for its lack of accessibility for people with disabilities. Instead of elevators, the Lakeview stop has long, narrow stairways.

"There are 41 steps that lead to the tracks that pose a challenge to anyone over the age of 12," Darryl Grant, 58, of Rogers Park wrote to GP.

Also receiving multiple votes from readers: the Belmont Blue Line stop in Avondale for its oft-broken escalator; the Jarvis and Morse Red Line stops in Rogers Park for their "urine smell"; the Harrison Red Line stop in the South Loop for its dirt and puddles; and the Clark/Division Red Line stop on the Near North Side for soot on the walls.

Go to **redychicago.com/goingpublic** to see how readers would improve their stops.

RIDER'S BLOCK

My pledge to ride every CTA bus line continues. I rode the No. 24-Wentworth this week and boiled my review down to a tweet.

@tracyswartz

51 min from Thompson Center to 87th/Racine. Great for those who haven't visited Chinatown. Stops by U.S. Cellular Field. Parallels Red Line.

120 routes down, 19 to go!

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WEED STREET

POLICE RAIDING MORE MARIJUANA GROW HOUSES IN THE CHICAGO AREA

Chicago Tribune

Nothing appeared amiss at the pale green ranch house on South Aldine Street, though oddly, the landlord noted, the electricity bill was enormous.

The young female tenant walked her dog before leaving each morning for her job at a beauty salon. She kept the lawn tidy, chatted occasionally with neighbors and dropped off her rent check, always on time, at Mary Swanson's real estate office.

Only later did Swanson figure out why the utility bill was so high, after police swarmed the Elgin house on a September afternoon.

Her tenant was sheltering a marijuana-growing operation, with hundreds of plants sitting beneath high-power, commercial-grade lamps. Workers had torn out a laundry room, installed custom ventilation and water purification systems and set up insulated "staging areas," where plants were nurtured from seed to harvest, police said.

"I have been a landlord for a long time, and these people pulled the wool over my eyes," said Swanson, 47, whose tenant had blamed her \$350 energy bill—three times that of her neighbors—on the air conditioning.

"I hadn't had any issues whatsoever," said Swanson, adding that her tenant's credit and background check came back clean. "I would drive by, and she would be out with her dog."

Elgin police ranked the drug bust as one of their largest, arresting five people after linking three more houses to the operation, all within the same west side neighborhood. Swanson owned two of them, which she said cost \$18,000 to restore to their original condition.

Throughout the Chicago area, police have been aware of so-called grow houses and outdoor crops of less potent "ditch weed" for decades. But they are raiding more of the sophisticated indoor operations—with twice as many reported to a federal program in 2010 as in 2005.

Authorities say they believe the number of grow houses is on the rise, though much of their evidence is anecdotal, as there is

"This isn't your average street-level drug dealer because it takes such a large initial investment."

—Daniel Linn, executive director of the Illinois chapter of NORML

no uniform method of reporting statistics. They have improved their ability to spot such houses, which manufacture highly potent marijuana that can fetch up to \$5,000 per pound, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. That compares to \$800-\$1,500 per pound for the more common product transported from Mexico, officials said.

"There is a definite demand for that type of marijuana," said DEA Special Agent Will Taylor, of Chicago. "It is a niche area. ... The



typical outdoor marijuana will have a low THC [tetrahydrocannabinol] content in comparison to the indoor."

Some blame the bad economy for enticing a new breed of entrepreneurs into the pot-production field. Websites provide instructions on hydroponic planting techniques, equipment and nutrients to ensure the best grow. Meanwhile, marijuana for medical use has been legalized in 16 states, according to the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. Illinois legislators narrowly

rejected a bill calling for the legalization of medical marijuana in May.

Those arrested for harvesting pot do not fit simple stereotypes. In Schaumburg, an exercise physiologist was arrested for growing more than 50 marijuana plants in his crawl space. His case was dismissed July 28 when a judge ruled there was insufficient probable cause for the search warrant, his lawyer said.

"This isn't your average street-level drug dealer because it takes such a large initial

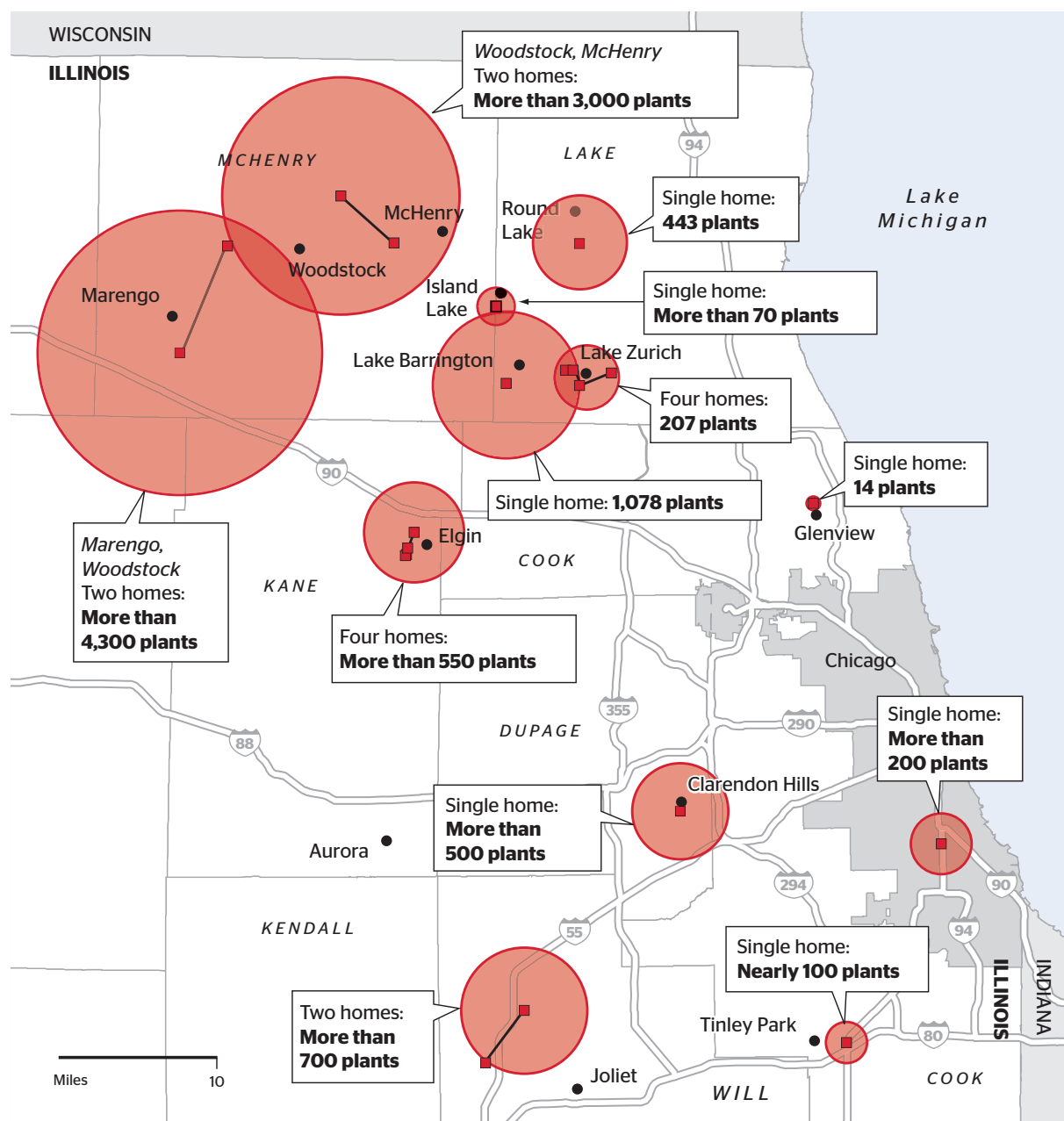
Police photos of the pot-growing operation in Elgin homes during fall 2010.



NOTABLE MARIJUANA BUSTS

Recent police busts of indoor marijuana-growing operations have included multiple homes that are part of a single operation. Chicago's northwest suburbs were home to many of the busts.

KEY: ■ Homes busted by police ○ Area of circle is relative to the number of marijuana plants recovered



SOURCES: POLICE AGENCIES, TRIBUNE REPORTING

TRIBUNE GRAPHIC

investment,” said Daniel Linn, 28, executive director of NORML’s Illinois chapter. “It takes a skill set, as far as the gardening goes. It isn’t as simple as planting tomatoes in the backyard and letting rain fall on it.”

Pot growers often rent homes in moderate to upscale neighborhoods. Most prefer to rent, rather than buy, a home to avoid losing their assets if they are caught, Linn said.

Such growers usually try to avoid scrutiny, keeping the house and lawn maintained and traffic activity minimal, he said. Although

they might seem harmless, police say, the grow houses pose hazards to neighbors. Often police find other drugs and weapons during their raids. Offenders, too, will divert or steal electricity, which can be dangerous, according to ComEd.

“A lot of times, the neighbors will call and say, ‘Hey this doesn’t look right,’ ” said Sgt. John Koziol, with the McHenry County Sheriff’s Department. “A lot of houses we have hit have a lot of visible mold outside the house. Some were \$400,000 to \$500,000 houses.”

IS MY NEIGHBOR A GROWER IN DISGUISE?

Signs that the house next door might have gone to pot.

- » Strong odor coming from house, sometimes skunklike.
- » Windows are darkened or show excessive condensation.
- » Mold on the exterior of the home.
- » Jury-rigged electricity box.
- » Occupants are rarely seen.
- » Little to no trash put out on pickup day.

- » A humming electrical sound coming from the home.
- » In winter, there is no snow on the roof or an unusual amount of steam coming from exterior vents.
- » Tall fences, chained gates or guard dog signs.

SOURCES: TRIBUNE INTERVIEWS, WEBSITES

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AP FILE

War of the wieners

Chicago area's Oscar Mayer and Ball Park franks take their beef to federal court

Chicago Tribune

In a city that loves its hot dogs, the nation's top two wiener-makers battled in federal court Monday over dueling false advertising claims that have already underscored at least one frankfurter truism: Marketing sausage can be a lot like making it.

Messy.

The trial stems from a 2009 lawsuit by Sara Lee Corp. over ads by Kraft Foods Inc. that claimed its hot dogs had won a national taste test and were "100 percent pure beef."

Kraft quickly filed its own countersuit, accusing Sara Lee of similar marketing no-no's, including boasting about its own "all beef" hot dog and misrepresenting a culinary award in touting its wieners as "America's best."

At stake in the legal battle is a \$1.76 billion hot

dog market dominated by Kraft's Oscar Mayer wieners and Sara Lee's Ball Park franks and whether either company's boasts crossed a line. The sales total doesn't include revenue from Wal-Mart and its club stores.

As the trial opened Monday in Chicago, lawyers for both Chicago area-based food behemoths argued over such frank-marketing minutiae as the difference between meat and beef and whether a taste test could even be considered valid without such vital condiments as mustard.

Common ground seemed to lie only in puns, which proved irresistible to many in the courtroom.

Amid the heated hot dog talk, approximations became "ballpark" figures. An alleged disclosure was presented as a "frank" admission. And argu-

ments naturally turned into "beefs."

"I'm trying to save one pun for the end of this," said Kraft attorney Stephen O'Neil, drawing a smile from U.S. Magistrate Judge Morton Denlow and chuckles from other lawyers.

But despite the occasional moments of levity, the openings statements by both sides brimmed with vitriol as only disputes between two fierce competitors can.

"Not in the entire history of American hot dogs ... was a campaign of this scope launched," Sara Lee attorney Richard Leighton said of Kraft's allegedly misleading advertising.

The filing of this lawsuit "was an act of utter hypocrisy," O'Neil volleyed back, alleging that Sara Lee's hot dogs also had been presented as "all beef" when they, too, contained preservatives.

Chicago boosts chef cred

Grant Achatz claimed Cooking Light magazine's Restaurant Innovation Award on Monday for his work at Alinea and Next. The September issue hits newsstands Friday. In other Chicago chef news, Elmwood Park's Jeff Mauro was crowned the next "Food Network Star" during the series finale Sunday night. His new show, "Sandwich King," premieres at 10:30 a.m. Sunday on the Food Network.

Alert for Northwest Side robberies

Chicago police have issued an alert warning businesses about three armed robberies on the Northwest Side in July and August. The robberies were at small restaurants such as Subway and Dunkin' Donuts located in strip malls.

New CPS plan announced

Mayor Emanuel announced Monday a new way to evaluate Chicago Public Schools principals, including the creation of a \$5 million pool of money from charitable organizations to boost the pay of the city's best-performing principals. Details are pending.

Man found unresponsive in Diversey Harbor

A man was declared dead after being found unresponsive in Diversey Harbor in Lakeview on Monday by harbor security guards, according to police. Authorities were alerted to someone in the water at Diversey Parkway about 3 a.m.

Lottery sales on the ups

The Illinois Lottery recorded its ninth straight year of increased sales in the fiscal year ended in June, delivering nearly \$700 million to schools, capital projects and other funds, according to a release from the agency on Monday. TRIBUNE, REDEYE

Readers say ...

Forget the courtroom drama for a moment. Which hot dog do you prefer? With more than 1,200 votes as of Monday evening, here were the unscientific results of a poll conducted at chicagotribune.com.



63%



37%



GETTY IMAGES

British leader: 'Moral collapse' to blame for riots

1 British Prime Minister **David Cameron** blames the riots that shook Britain over the past 10 days on a "slow-motion moral collapse ... in parts of our country," he said Monday, as police arrested a new suspect linked with one of the deadliest incidents in the violence.

140K gallons of fuel in river

2 A leak in a natural gas liquids pipeline operated by Enterprise Products Partners has spilled 140,000 gallons of fuel into the Missouri River, the company said Monday.

Fatal fall, different body

3 A college student who overstepped a safety railing and fell into Niagara Falls over the weekend had searchers looking for her body Monday, when instead they found an unidentified male body.

Gert skirts Bermuda

4 Tropical Storm Gert began to turn away from Bermuda on Monday and the British territory dropped all storm warnings for the mid-Atlantic island, forecasters at the U.S. National Hurricane Center said.

Obama kicks off Midwest tour

5 President Obama began a three-day Midwestern tour Monday with a town hall meeting before a supportive crowd at a Minnesota park in an early build-up to the 2012 presidential race.

UN eyes Sudan report

6 The United Nations called Monday for an inquiry into reports of human rights abuses in Sudan's conflict-ridden Southern Kordofan region that it said could amount to war crimes.



Family members embrace Monday during a service for those who died in Saturday's stage collapse in Indiana. **INDIANAPOLIS STAR**

FAIR REOPENS

INDIANA STATE FESTIVAL BEGINS WITH MEMORIAL SERVICE

7 INDIANAPOLIS The Indiana State Fair reopened Monday with a half-hour service remembering those who died following the collapse of its main concert stage over the weekend in heavy wind.

The disaster, which killed five people and injured scores more, occurred Saturday night and the fair was shut down Sunday.

"There was a hero every 10 feet Saturday night," Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels said at the service, recalling how concert-goers rushed toward the collapsed stage and scaffolding to free the trapped and rescue the injured.

"We come today with hearts that are broken but also hearts that are filled.

"Our first love, our first concern is with our neighbors and our first job is to get back to the business of living," Daniels said.

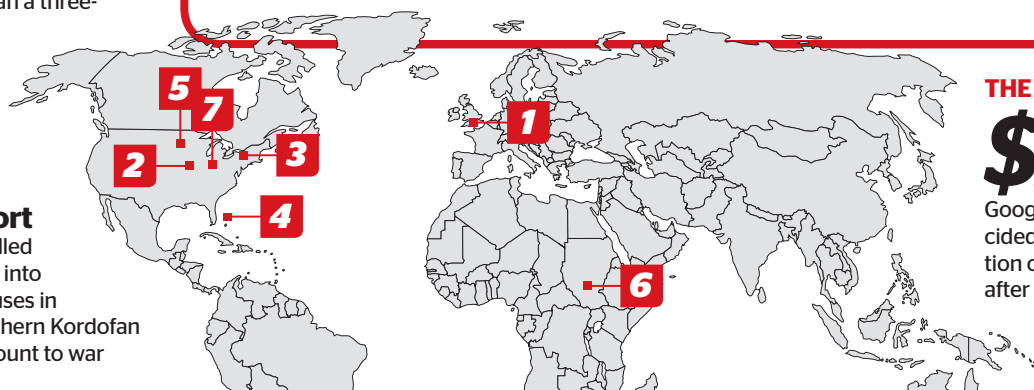
Fair officials still were updating the schedule Monday. A fireworks display set for the fair's final night has been canceled. No announcements have been made regarding big entertainment acts, including Janet Jackson and Maroon 5, that had been scheduled to perform this week.

More than 40 people were injured in the

stage collapse just minutes before the duo Sugarland was set to begin performing.

Officials had informed spectators prior to the show that the concert might have to be postponed due to the weather, but a strong gust blew the stage over before any official evacuation order was issued.

Asked in a CNN interview Monday whether more precautions should have been taken in light of the storm forecast, Daniels said: "Obviously everyone regrets the outcome here, but you know our first instinct in Indiana is not to go rushing around looking for scapegoats."



THE DIGIT

\$2.5 billion

Google would pay Motorola a whopping \$2.5 billion if it decided to walk away from its proposed \$12.5 billion acquisition of the company, a source close to the situation said after the announcement was made Monday.



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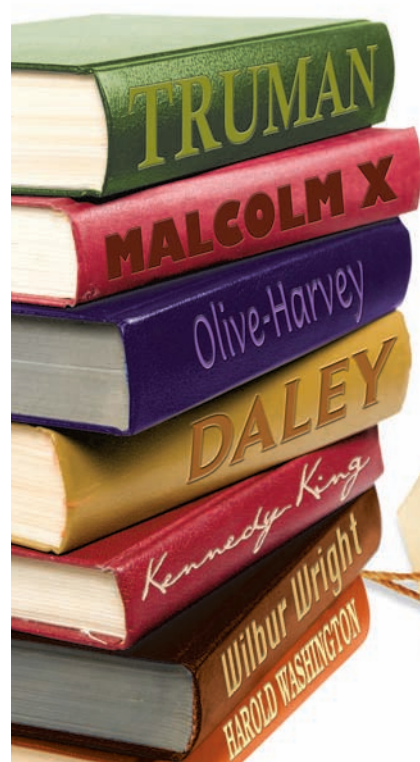
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PRETTY LUCKY

Ex-Playmate goes from fantasy pinup to fantasy football and poker expert

By Ryan Smith

FOR REDEYE

You could call Alison Waite every man's—and maybe some women's—fantasy girl.

The former Playboy Playmate has her girly-girl side, but she also has a penchant for stereotypical male interests. She likes poker, won her fantasy football league last year and came to Chicago bearing cigars—yet admits she saw the Justin Bieber movie on Valentine's Day.

Waite, 29, visited Chicago last week to promote the Macanudo Millionaire Contest, which awards the winner a VIP weekend at the Palms Casino Resort in Las Vegas where they can win \$1 million if they play their cards right.

While in town, she spoke to RedEye about how to get lucky—in poker and fantasy football.

How'd you get interested in poker?

I worked as a hostess for the World Poker Tour. I like the idea of poker; there are so many characters that play, and I think it's exciting.

Do you have any tips for new players?

Don't feel like you have to play every hand. If you have a bad hand, sit and wait for something better. Be confident and have a good attitude. It's always good to have a prop ready for a distraction. Something like wearing sunglasses or maybe a nice cigar to puff on.

Do you feel like you don't get taken seriously by your competitors when you first start playing in a group?

I think so. Definitely. And when I win, they didn't see it coming. They have no idea.

Any good Vegas stories you can share?

You know the whole saying, "what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas," come on! But no, I got to stay in the Hugh Hefner suite at the Palms after he left for his 82nd birthday. He decided he didn't want to stay there after the party. I had a couple cocktails and felt pretty confident, so I just went up to Hef and was just like "Look, you're not using the room, can my friend Jillian and I stay there?" He was a little thrown off, but was just like, "OK, sure." They rent it for like \$30,000 a night, one of the most expensive in the world. We did a tasteful photo shoot for Hef in the bath/pool where we filled the bath up with all this shampoo and all the body wash, we had all these bubbles everywhere and our faces peeking out. We gave him a birthday card with the picture.

I'm told you also won your fantasy football league.

A couple of my girlfriends thought it'd be a good idea to start a league. It's an all-female league. One of the girls, her husband played for the Raiders, which seemed unfair with all the inside information. But I kicked her butt anyway. Yeah, so I won last year and got myself a purse with the winnings. What else do you buy when you win fantasy football?

Who's your No. 1 fantasy player this year?

Not sure I am ready to reveal my picks yet. But I might have to go with an old standby like Peyton Manning.

Has Brett Favre ever texted you?

Nope, never received a text message or a photo text from Brett Favre.

RYAN SMITH IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



Alison Waite
LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

Make the cut

You can join this panel simply by answering the questions at the link above—and by giving Phil a back massage.



PHIL THOMPSON
plthompson@tribune.com



SCOTT BOLOHAN
twitter.com/scottbolohan



JERRY RILES
twitter.com/jerryriles



KURT EVANS
chicagonow.com



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1 What got overlooked during the Bears-Buffalo game?

The offensive line. In the offseason. Once again.

Olin Kreutz apparently changed his number.

The cheerleaders. The Bears still don't have any in 2011.

Aren't the Bears supposed to play NFL-caliber teams in the preseason?

A small coup erupted in Liechtenstein led entirely by computers. We won.

2 How is a "Monday Night Football" game different during the preseason?

They bring in extra commentators they know they'll cut later. That's your cue, Dennis Miller.

When Hank Williams Jr. asks if you are ready for some football, everyone just kinda shrugs.

Slower, boring and not so entertaining, but you can still place a bet.

If you have TiVo, you fast-forward to the only parts that matter: the commercials.

Phil and Scott don't karaoke at halftime, they recite poems to each other.

3 What did the first weekend of preseason football do to your fantasy outlook?

Don't draft Seahawks under any circumstances. Not for fantasy, not even for the military.

Nathan Enderle passed Jay Cutler on my draft board.

Nothing. If I wanted to fantasize, it wouldn't be about big, burly, sweaty dudes.

Aw, crap. I'm supposed to have a fantasy outlook?

I'm not letting that incompetent Yahoo! computer system auto-draft a kicker for me in the first round.

4 What's Carlos Zambrano doing right now?

He's being changed, I mean traded.

Writing sonnets.

Picking a fight with his alter ego. He already lost to his reflection in the mirror.

He's aiming to set a world record for most retirements in a month. So far, no other sport will take him, though.

Regretting what he's done.

5 An IndyCar driver was caught flipping the bird on live TV. What angered him?

Not what ... who? (Cue picture of Racer X.)

He was a huge Tim Pawlenty fan.

The Cubs ending Dan Uggla's 33-game hitting streak.

He suddenly remembered that he wasn't racing Formula 1—the rage and shame were palpable.

He heard about the coming mechanization of the human race. Sorry, bruh. HAHAAHAHAHAHA!

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Zambrano: I want to be a Cub

HOUSTON Carlos Zambrano went on the offensive Monday, filing a grievance through the MLB Players Union for his 30-day stint on the disqualified list and telling Comcast SportsNet he doesn't "understand" general manager Jim Hendry's harsh disciplinary action.

MONDAY NIGHT'S GAME
Cubs 4, Houston 3

"He's always been good to me, but this one, it makes me sad," he said on "Chicago Tribune Live." Zambrano also said he apologizes to fans and the team for his actions and wants to remain "a Cubbie for the rest of my life."

Zambrano insisted he was not serious when he told clubhouse personnel and trainers Friday that he would retire, and that he fully intended to return Saturday, only to be

informed by his agent not to show up. He also said he wasn't trying to throw at the Braves' Chipper Jones in the incident that led to his ejection, and that he was being "punished for something" he said in private.

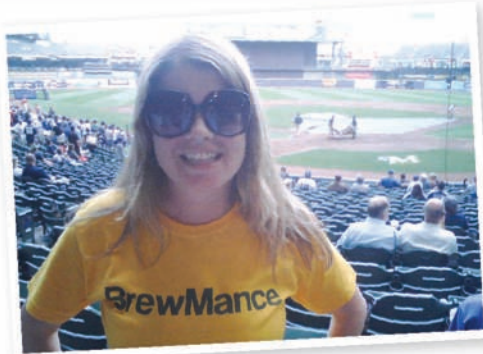
Mostly, Zambrano seemed upset that his "retirement" remarks wound up in the media. "I say something in the clubhouse, that has to stay there," he said.



» FOLLOW TRACY'S TRAVELS ON TWITTER AT @TRACYSWARTZ

TRACY'S TRIPPIN'

RedEye reporter Tracy Swartz is visiting nine major-league ballparks in nine days. On Monday, she was at Milwaukee's Miller Park—her final stop. Here's her puncard to Chicago.



I love how when you arrive at Miller Park in Milwaukee, someone immediately tries to put a sausage in your hand.

Tailgating is bigger here than the giant baseballs in the park's courtyard.

I'm happy I ended my 1,800-mile odyssey of nine ballparks in nine days on Monday at Miller, which I've visited about a half dozen times in the past two years.

It was here that I conceived my love for eating things out of a helmet. I enjoy the curds, the Lakefront beer and the Sausage Race.

I don't love the T.G.I. Friday's lounge, but that could just be because I'm a Brat.

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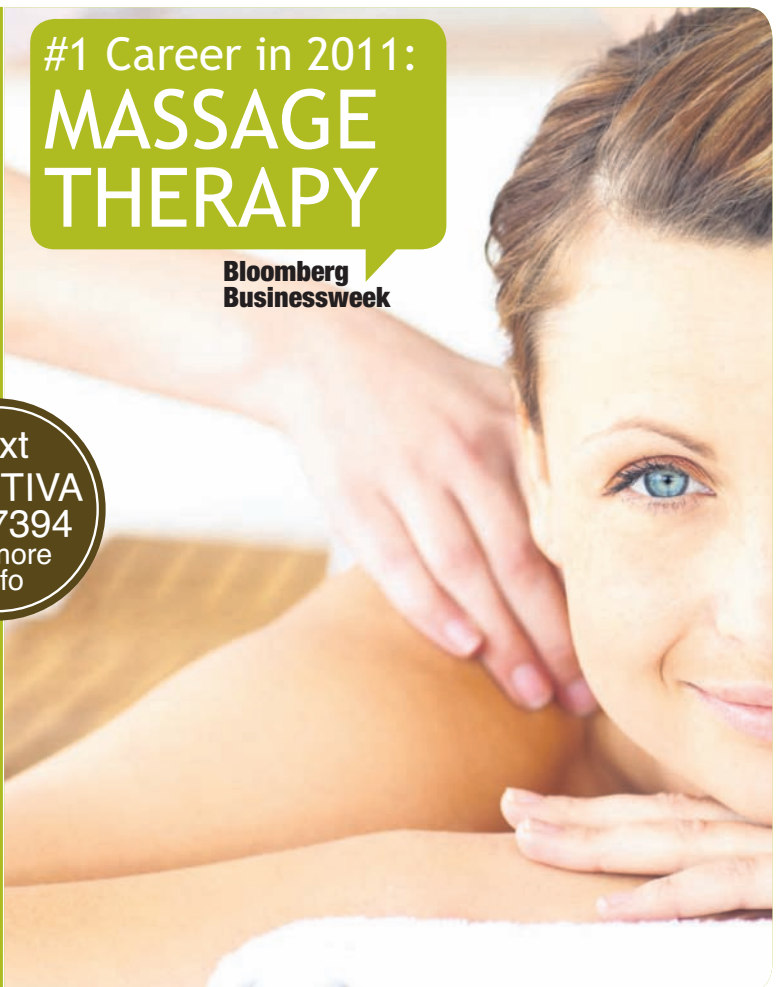
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Healthy is hot

5 new spots to go guilt-free

By Sarah Freeman

It's 11:30 a.m. You feel that familiar pang in your stomach as you swear the intoxicating scent of french fries is being pumped through your office ventilation system. Coming to the rescue are a handful of new restaurants ready to help you fight the urge to grab a quick fix of fat. We've picked some must-try dishes at these healthy spots—which serve everything from salads to stir-fried “steak”—and promise you won't spend your afternoon in a calorie coma.

Protein Bar

235 S. Franklin St. 312-346-7300; 352 N. Clark St. 312-527-0450 (Two more locations coming soon: 221 W. Washington St. and 10 S. Clinton St., in the Fitness Formula Club)

If Chipotle went to fat camp, it might come out looking something like Protein Bar. Matt Matros, who lost 50 pounds from a high-protein diet, says he opened the fast-casual restaurants after he had a difficult time dining out with his dietary restrictions.

Try this: Grilled buffalo “bar-rito” (\$7.25). Spicy, smooth house-made buffalo sauce goes healthy in a whole-wheat tortilla stuffed with chicken or tofu, organic quinoa, blue cheese and Protein Bar's Super 6 salad mix (romaine, spinach, purple cabbage, broccoli, carrots and red pepper).



Andrea McGinty of Native Foods Cafe
KERI WIGINTON/TRIBUNE PHOTOS



Native Foods Cafe

1484 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-8480 (Two more locations coming soon: 1023 W. Belmont Ave. in Lakeview and 218 S. Clark St. in the Loop)

Native Foods Cafe was born in the same state as many health-food havens: California. Its brand-new Wicker Park location is transforming local favorites such as Italian beef into vegan meals. See how chef Tanya Petrovna does it during a street-food cooking demo at 9:30 a.m. Aug. 27; sign up at nativefoods.com.

Try this: Kale salad (\$8.95), which features the tasty superfood tossed with shredded cabbage, apples, avocado, currants, almonds, tahini and maple-orange dressing.

Fül 3310 N. Broadway. 773-525-0240

This Boystown cafe serves up a handful of salads, sandwiches on fresh-baked bread and design-your-own smoothies. If you're not sure what to try, registered dietitian Amy Klassman is on-site to guide you to the most nutritious selections. (Guessing she's going to tell us to leave off the cheese.)

Try this: Turkey and avocado sandwich (\$8.50). It's 398 calories' worth of ciabatta bread, arugula, tomato and house-made pesto.

Bombay Spice Grill & Wine

111 W. Illinois St. 312-477-7657

Low-fat staples such as lentils and chickpeas are essential to vegan-friendly Bombay Spice's magic number: 500. That's the maximum calories in any of its dishes, which are cooked with olive oil instead of traditional clarified butter.

Try this: The vegetable of your choice in the sauce of your choice (we like vindaloo, made with onion, ginger, garlic and Indian spices; \$9.45) with basmati or brown rice, noodles or protein-packed quinoa (our favorite).

Urban Vegan

1605 W. Montrose Ave. 773-404-1109

Still dreaming about crispy bacon, tender chicken and perfectly grilled steak? The meat substitutes at Urban Vegan could provide a fix. The soy chicken, pepper steak, fish and bacon are perfect for those wanting to try out a vegetarian diet.

Try this: The PET does not look or taste like a BLT, but this veggie-packed dish is a lot healthier. Pumpkin, eggplant and tofu are stir-fried in garlic sauce with bell peppers, basil and chili (\$9.95). Still want the bacon? Add soy meat for \$2.

SARAH FREEMAN IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR. METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM | @METROMIXCHI

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Real Housewives of Hammond

Be prepared: Bravo's finest are getting all Midwestern on us

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

It looks like "The Real Housewives" has found its new city—our neighbor, Hammond, Ind. For one night only, Oct. 8, four of Bravo's best D-list reality stars will set up shop at The Venue at Horseshoe Casino to (we assume) dish dirt about each other and talk about their favorite shoe stores. In case you're ready to shell out \$49-\$173 for this glorious event, here are the four charming lasses appearing onstage, and their biographical deets. (P.S., the presale begins Tuesday.) DAMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM



Sonja Morgan

Series: "The Real Housewives of New York City"
Bio: Studied marketing at the Fashion Institute of Technology, has Berkshire-bred sensibilities and values, according to Bravo
Is less famous than: Countess LuAnn de Lesseps
Activities: Kicking people out of her house, bumbling around Morocco
Fun fact: Is a single mother *gasp*!

Gretchen Rossi

Series: "The Real Housewives of Orange County"
Bio: Quit her real estate job to take care of her now-dead fiancé. Has a handbag and makeup business.
Is less famous than: Fernanda Rocha ... hellooooo 2011 Chicago Pride grand marshal!
Activities: Going to slumber parties, writing songs about her dead fiancé, getting into handbag-related fights
Fun fact: Is now dating Slade Smiley, who has a ridiculous name and previously courted cast member Jo De La Rosa.

Lisa Vanderpump

Series: "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills"
Bio: Born in London and lived in the South of France and Monte Carlo. Has two children, Pandora and Max. Yes, Pandora Vanderpump.
Is less famous than: Camille Grammer
Activities: Buying chocolate Louboutins, touring a musicians' institute, observing brainwaves with a hypnotist
Fun fact: Spends every night in bed with a gigolo, according to bravotv.com. We assume this man is not also her husband.

Phaedra Parks

Series: "The Real Housewives of Atlanta"
Bio: Works as an entertainment lawyer and legal analyst. Has one child with her husband, Apollo.
Is less famous than: NeNe Leakes
Activities: Hosting fancy baby-revealing parties, hosting a Kentucky Derby-themed baby shower, taking weird baby photos with her husband ... we sense a trend.
Fun fact: She and her husband are prime gossip topics due to a) his youth and b) his time in prison for a "white-collar crime."



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ACROSS

- Wild spree
- Beneficial
- Hawaiian island
- Decorate
- "Do... others..."
- Story line
- Rub it in
- Piece of
- Greek Orthodox art
- Harbor town
- Reasonable
- Waken
- "Beat it!"
- Not nearly as tasty
- Athlete
- Evide
- Lubricate
- Put off; delay
- Follow
- Poodles and hounds
- Food chopper
- British conservative
- Slow as a
- Stand for a painting
- Grow old
- Bridal offering
- Reached a high point
- Small bouquet
- Actor Orson
- Rubber end of a pencil
- Small dead-end street
- Border on
- Bric-a-
- Greek alphabet ending
- Bush's Condoleezza
- All skin and bones
- Uses an emery board
- Ladder rung
- Rams' mates
- Inaccurate

DOWN

- Paper sacks
- Being lazy
- Midday
- Like a meadow
- Tempted
- Culpability
- A single time
- "... be in England..."
- Daisy Duck's love
- Rival
- Spoken; oral
- Steed
- Say
- Exposed
- In a...; furious
- Uses a drill
- Whale groups
- Roaring beast

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(line from Robert Browning)

- Seaweed
- Go bad
- Hot-tempered
- Saturate
- Craving
- Looked at
- Steer clear of
- Fend off
- Theater box
- Go first
- Sing like a bird
- Red blood cell

- deficiency
- Comes close to
- Planet's path
- Word with soy or Hollandaise
- Dollars
- Punish harshly
- Get rid of on eBay, e.g.
- Middle...; period from A.D. 500 to A.D. 1500
- In any...; regardless
- Uncooked

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red hot

straight to a point

Maroon 5's Adam Levine (right) is the latest Out magazine cover boy, but don't get any ideas. "There's no way to hide my straightness," he says. The "She Will Be Loved" singer goes on to compare himself to rock legends: "Look at the best ones, guys whose sexuality was always questioned. Bowie. Jagger. Freddie Mercury. I wouldn't be the front man of a band if that question hadn't come up at some point." GETTY IMAGES PHOTO



THE DIGIT

\$309 million

That's how much HTC paid Dr. Dre for a 51 percent share of his audio company, Beats Electronics, according to [nme.com](#). Looks like someone won't need to do those Dr Pepper ads to pay the bills anymore.



That's fishy

Ask a dumb question, get a dumb answer. Asked in an interview with Mikoh Swimwear what she would

take with her if she were stranded on an island, country star and part-time Chicago resident LeAnn Rimes (above) answered, in part, "an endless supply of sushi." What, no unicorns?

And Gaga in a pear tree

On the first day of Christmas, Barney's New York gave to me ... the holidays by Lady Gaga! The department store has signed the singer to create her interpretation of Santa's workshop, including a wonderland taking up an entire floor of its flagship store, [eonline.com](#) reports. No word yet whether Gaga's taking applications from little monsters to play elves.

Brit parade

Don't look now, but the MTV Video Music Awards are less than two weeks away, and more details about the notoriously crazy event are creeping out. Here's what VMAs executive producer Amy Doyle told [billboard.com](#) about the Aug. 28 show.

► Britney Spears will get the tribute treatment. She may be young, but she's a seasoned veteran in MTV years.

► The network will announce a host soon. Let's just hope it doesn't panic under the time constraints and go with James Franco.

► VMA producers are talking about "acknowledging" Amy Winehouse, who died last month. Good call.



Don't save the date

Tara Reid (left) got married Saturday—two hours after she got engaged.

The "American Pie" star tied the knot in Greece with a guy named Zack, [latimes.com](#) reports. The groom's name is important only because Reid's own rep got confused and said she had married ex-boyfriend Michael Lillelund. So they're off to a great start ...

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